

## **Biosecurity in a Biosafety Environment**

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## **Biosafety and Biosecurity**

## Biosafety

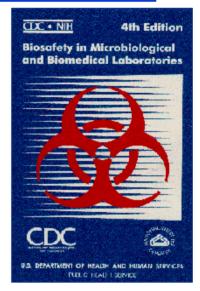
 Objective: reduce or eliminate accidental exposure to or release of potentially hazardous agents

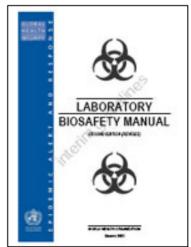
### Biosecurity

 Objective: protect biological agents against theft and sabotage by those who intend to pursue bioterrorism or biological weapons proliferation

### Common strategy

- Implement graded levels of protection based on a risk management methodology
- Control of certain biological materials is necessary, but how that is achieved must be carefully considered
  - Biosecurity and biosafety should be integrated systems, and refrain from compromising necessary infectious disease research









## **Biosafety and Biosecurity Issues**

## **Areas of Overlap**

- Risk assessment and risk management
- Personnel management
- Material transport protocols
- Physical security elements
- Training
- Emergency planning
- Program management

## **Possible Conflicts**

- Access controls
  - Allow for emergency ingress and egress but still ensure security of materials
- Badges
  - In some situations, badges can be a safety hazard but proper identification signifying authorization is crucial for both biosafety and biosecurity
- Signage
  - Necessary to alert staff and visitors of hazards but may identify materials, locations, and people





# **Survey of Bioscience Community**

### Reed Research Group conducted the survey

Email blasts directed respondents to a secure web server

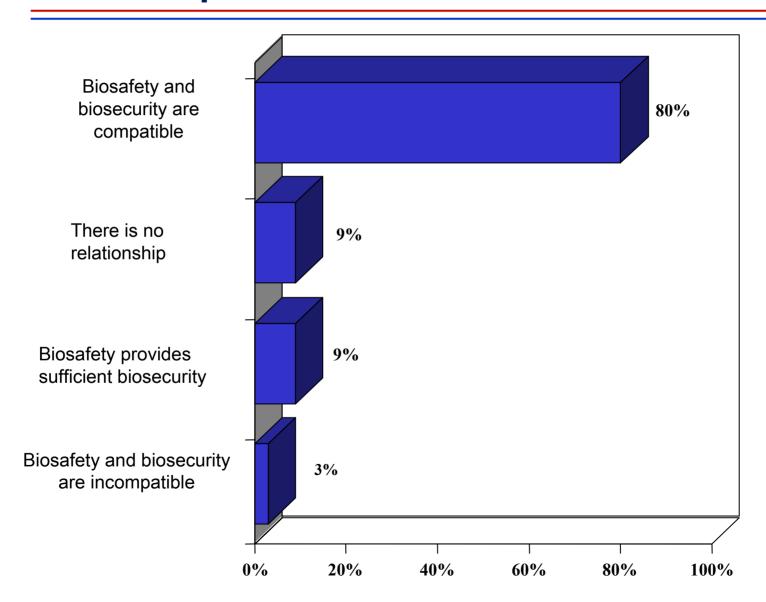
## 203 respondents

- Universities (36%), Industry (24%), Clinical labs (15%), Government (14%), Diagnostic labs (3%) and Other (8%)
- 77 responding institutions (38 %) work with Select Agents (regulated by 42 CFR 73, 9 CFR 121, and/or 7 CFR 331)
- Director/manager (34%), Principal Investigator (27%), Laboratory support staff - technician (16%), Biosafety officer (6%), Responsible official (2%) and Other (15%)





# Relationship of Biosafety and Biosecurity: All Respondents







# Views on Security of Biological Materials: All Respondents

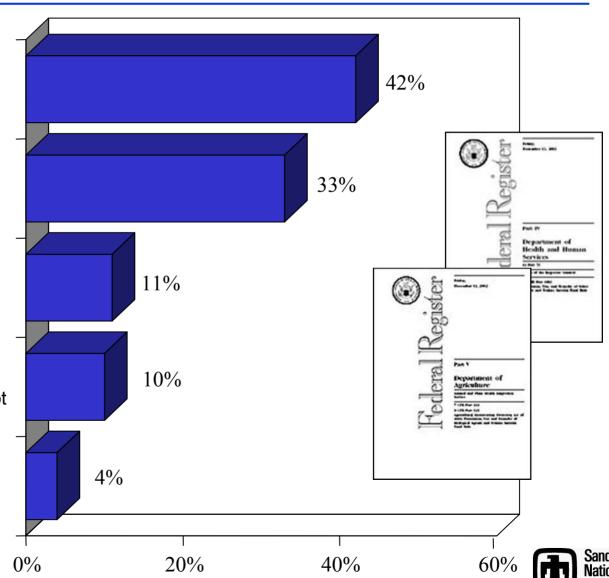
The CFR are on the right track but need to be revised to provide clarity

The CFR impose prudent security measures

The CFR are a good first step but don't go far enough

Some security of some pathogens and toxins is warranted but the CFR are not the right approach

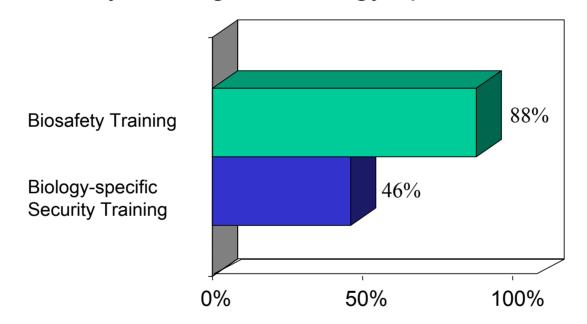
Security of pathogens and toxins is unnecessary





# Biosafety and Biosecurity Training: All Respondents

- Does your facility conduct:
  - Biosafety training and biology-specific security training



 Of those facilities that provide such biosecurity training, 84% do so in conjunction with their biosafety training.



# Perceived Impacts of CFR Security Requirements: Select Agent Respondents

#### Positive Impacts

- Increased awareness of risks posed by some pathogens and toxins – 85%
- Increased funding for biosafety and biosecurity staff – 33%
- Increased funding from the institution for needed security 30%
- Increased research funding – 27%
- Increased number of researchers – 18%
- No positive impacts 3%

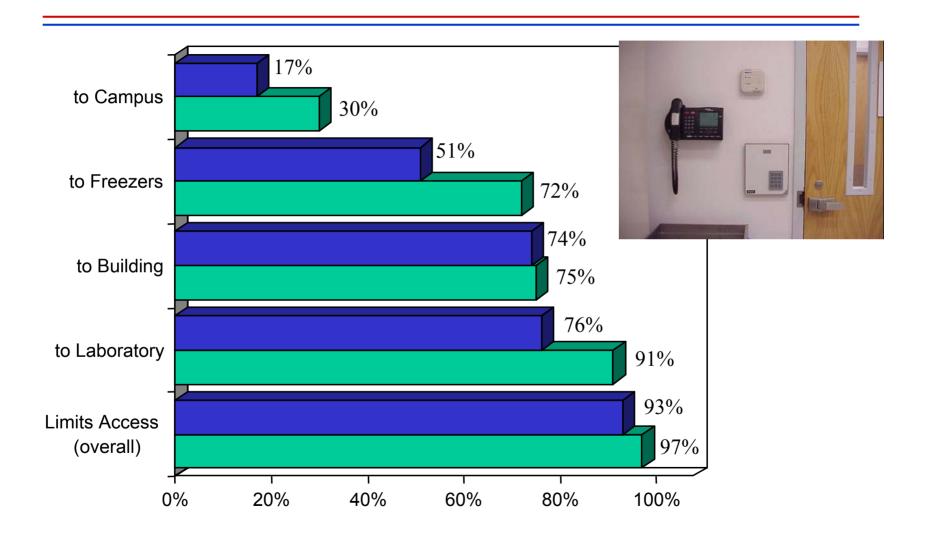
#### Negative Impacts

- Time required to comply with regulations – 62%
- Inconvenience of increased security 39%
- Required to use research funding for required security upgrades – 35%
- Decrease in research funding – 14%
- Decrease in number of qualified research personnel – 12%
- No negative impacts 11%
- Other 6%





# Access is a Safety and Security Issue



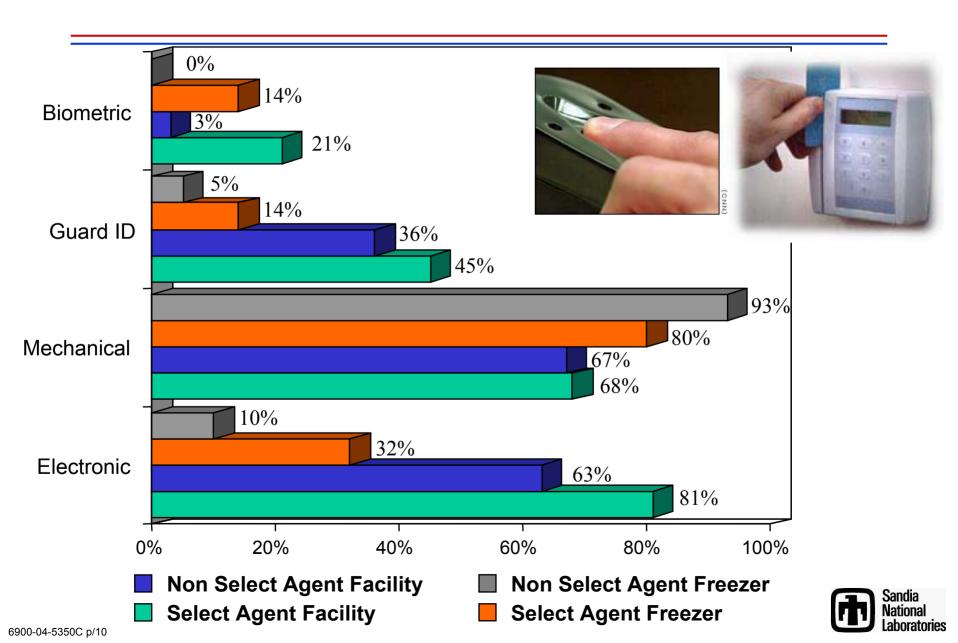








### **Access Controls**

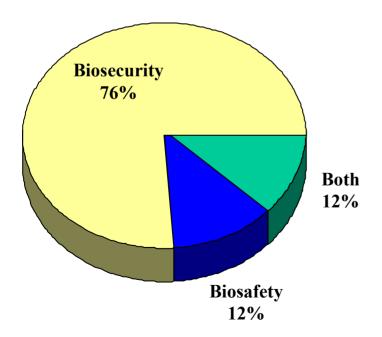




# Visitor Escorting is a Safety and Security Issue

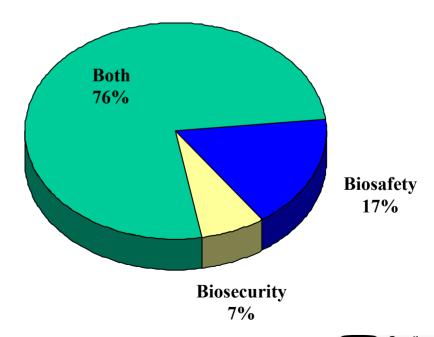
#### Select Agent Facilities

- Require escort:
  - 79% Yes
  - 21% No
- Reason:



#### Non Select Agent Facilities

- Require escort:
  - 60% Yes
  - 40% No
- Reason:







## Inventory is a Safety and Security Issue

#### Select Agent Labs

- 90% inventory all pathogens and toxins
- 48% inventory select agents differently than non-select agents

#### Non Select Agent Labs

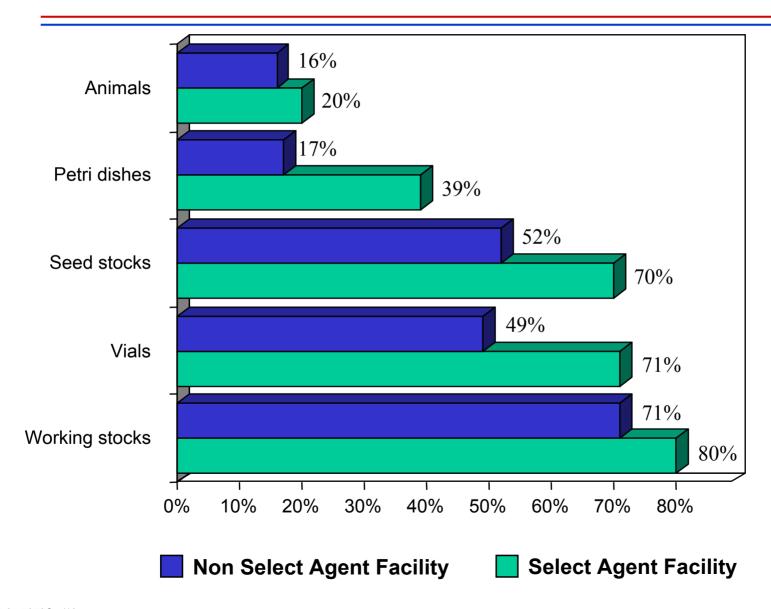
65% inventory all pathogens and toxins







## Inventory is a Safety and Security Issue







## **Summary**

- 96% of respondents feel that biosecurity is warranted for some pathogens and toxins
- Scientific community (80%) feels that biosafety and biosecurity are compatible.
- 86 % of respondents were generally positive about the CFR
  - But half of those think the CFR should be revised to provide clarity





### **Contact Information**

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